

Controversial Issues Should Be Studied

UNDERSTANDING of people can be accomplished through education more easily today than any method available to the world citizen.

But to do this, a person should know each and almost every point about subjects with which he is dealing. Educators trying to provide this knowledge, are dealing constantly with the problem of infringing on the sacred rights claimed by controversial issues.

The new president of the National Council for Social Studies, John H. Haefner, professor of education at University High School at Iowa City, recently proposed his stand. He said he will use his office to encourage better methods of teaching, which includes the study of controversial issues.

Haefner said, "I have no sympathy with people who want to steer clear of controversial issues in schools. If it is an honest-to-God issue, an important event in today's world, it is worth studying and knowing about."

"If we're unwilling to let competent teachers discuss controversial issues in classrooms, we're not interested in giving our children the best of education . . ."

"We need to consolidate the gains we have been making in this field. We know better methods of teaching, but we haven't got it working in most schools," the new president said when speaking to a convention of the National Council in Dallas.

He emphasized that teachers should use more pamphlets, radio, television, magazine

articles to expand study. Haefner deprecates the use of a single text book in study.

"But when you use magazine articles, you run into the problem of teaching controversial subjects," he said. "Because many articles are controversial."

Should Haefner accomplish his goal and introduce into the public schools the study of controversial issues, he also will help many colleges.

Because of certain elements, perhaps their previous study educators are pressured into eliminating such subjects from lectures. One professor here said: "If you should want to bring lecturers here, be sure and keep off of two subjects—religion and politics. They are controversial and will not leave a definite answer with the listener."

Only through attacking the controversial issues, proposing solutions, stimulating thought, will answers be derived. Detours do not help. The downhill road will become a hill some day. We feel college, where our guides are more reliable, is the best place to climb these hills.

When this is done, controversial issues will be dissolved and included in the everyday life of every student to produce a well-rounded graduate with a better understanding of people.

Ike Finishes Important Job

PRESIDENT-ELECT Dwight D. Eisenhower may have been thinking of J. Stuart Mill when naming his Cabinet members. It was Mill who said: ". . . The worth of a state, in the long run, is the worth of the individuals composing it."

Whatever the outcome, Eisenhower seems to have straddled an issue in naming Democrat Martin P. Durkin of Chicago secretary of labor. The only Democrat on the next President's cabinet, Durkin fills a post which will deal with groups which voted for the Democratic Party in the recent election.

Ike may be looking for cooperation for everyone in the future.

His cabinet appointments are: Commerce—Sinclair Weeks of Boston; State—John Foster Dulles of New York; Defense—Charles E. Wilson of Detroit; Treasury—George M. Humphrey of Cleveland; Agriculture—Ezra Taft Benson of Salt Lake City; Interior—Gov. Douglas McKay of Oregon; Labor—Martin P. Durkin of Chicago; Attorney General—Herbert Brownell of New York; Postmaster-general—Arthur E. Summerfield of Flint, Mich.

Abraham Lincoln, the first of the Republican Presidents, exemplified the country's thoughts of the new Cabinet when he said: "Honest statesmanship is the wise employment of individual meannesses for the public good." We hope the Cabinet thinks of it too.

The Battalion

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions
"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, is published by students four times a week, during the regular school year. During the summer terms, and examination and vacation periods, The Battalion is published twice a week. Days of publication are Tuesday through Friday for the regular school year, and Tuesday and Thursday during examination and vacation periods and the summer terms. Subscription rates \$6.00 per year or \$5.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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What's Cooking

Tuesday
7p. m.—AIEE, Room 2C, MSC.
Texas Turf Association Banquet, Assembly Room, MSC.
7:15 p. m.—Agronomy Society, Social Room, MSC.
7:30 p. m.—ASAE, Ag. Eng. Bldg. Program is to be presented by the International Harvester Company.
ASCE, Civil Engineering Assembly Room, Speaker and Refreshments.
Table Tennis Committee, Room 2A, MSC.
MSC Dance Classes, MSC Ballroom.
Agronomy Society, Social Room, MSC.
Journalism Club, Room 2B, MSC.
Camera Club, Room 2D, MSC.
Model night. Bring cameras.
ASME, Rooms 3B & 3C, MSC.
Wednesday
8 to 12 noon—Texas Turf Association, MSC Ballroom.
12 noon—Lion's Club Board of Director's Luncheon, Room 2D, MSC.
1 p. m.—Group Boyer, Room 2B, MSC.
2 p. m.—Newcomers Club, YMCA. Mrs. Jacco Roberts will speak on Christmas Decorations and Plantings.
7 p. m.—Bowling Committee, Room 2D, MSC.
7:15 p. m.—Hillel Foundation, Room 2C, MSC.
Executive Committee, Senate Room, MSC.
Aggie Christian Fellowship, Cabinet Room, YMCA, Ross Jennings will speak.
7:30 p. m.—Air Force Reserve, Rooms 2A & 2B MSC.
Christian Science Meeting, Room 3D, MSC.

Cafe Rue Pinalle Signs Two Bands

Cafe Rue Pinalle, the French Quarter of the MSC, will have two bands to play for its' guests Saturday night, Dec. 6.

Claude Harris' band and the Latin American Combo are the bands that will play. Juke box music will also be available.

The floorshow for the night will include some previous Rue Pinalle performers and a few new ones, said Oscar Garcia, manager. Scheduled to perform are Pete Mayeaux, vocalist, a trio of Latin American musicians, and Louis Wouglas, tap dancer. B. Q. "Buck" Evans will emcee the show.

There will be a number of special guests from the Regional Student Union Conference being held on the campus this weekend.

Admission will be 60 cents a person and advance ticket sale and reservations are being handled at the desk of the MSC Bowling Alley.

ASCE to Hear Houston Engineer

Robert J. Cummins, consulting engineer from Houston, will be guest speaker at the J. T. L. McNew student chapter of the ASCE at 7:30 tonight in the assembly room of Nagle Hall.

He will speak on the construction of the aqueduct supplying water from the Colorado River to Los Angeles and 13 of its neighboring cities. Slides of the \$220,000,000 project will be shown.

Engineers' Library Completes Moving

All books, magazines, and equipment of the Texas Engineers' Library have been moved to the new building, said Robert E. Betts librarian.

Organization has not been completed, but the library will open sometime after Dec. 15, he said.

The Engineering Extension Service will complete moving to the System Administration Building by the end of the week, barring interference from bad weather, said W. H. Badgett, manager of physical plants.

The moving is scheduled to start today and should be completed in three or four days if the weather permits.

Work will be started on moving the Experiment Station immediately after the Extension Service switch is completed, Badgett said.

Hike in Gas Rates On Council Agenda

College Station and Bryan city councils will meet jointly Friday, Dec. 12, to vote on Lone Star Gas Company's request for an increase in rates.

The company is seeking rate revisions throughout its operating territory in Texas and Oklahoma.

ARTS AND DARTS

Crime Film Rotates Around Slow Plot

By JERRY BENNETT
Amusement Editor

"THE TURNING POINT" starring William Holden, Alexis Smith, and Edmond O'Brien—Paramount—Campus Theater.

"The Turning Point" spins slowly around the dizzy Hollywood plot concerning a racket investigating committee which only proves crime pays at the box office.

In this latest whirl, Edmond O'Brien twirls his horn rimmed spectacles with all the affected

finesse of a cinematic senate investigator as his committee turns local crime topsy-turvy. After pouring over tons of documents, as flimsy as the film's plot, O'Brien discovers his own father is one of the hoods at which he has sworn to shake his finger.

Celluloid Merry-Go-Round
To further complicate matters, girl (Alexis Smith) starts necking with his best friend (William Holden) during committee hearings. Holden is a smooth sarcastic reporter who is proficient in just standing around and slugging crooks full in the face with tables.

When Holden starts his own private investigation, he discovers he needs more than his sarcasm and typewriter to keep revolving in this celluloid merry-go-round.

Backstreet Bars
"The Turning Point" manages to straighten itself at times through the use of excellent location photography and the usual quiet sensitive portrayal of actor Holden. Moody scenes of backstreet bars, pool halls, and slum districts are realistic and add suspense to the movie.

Although impressive, the photography is not enough to unravel the standard tangled situations of "The Turning Point."

Chest Drive Short \$2,149

Going into the last week of their drive, the Community Chest is still \$2,149 short of their \$11,019 goal. The deadline is Dec. 5.

Reports are in from all the solicited donors except one department of the college. Bennie Zinn, chairman of the Community Chest committee, estimates that this department will turn in about two hundred dollars.

"We expect donations to be coming in through January," Zinn said. "Several business have told me they will contribute after the first of the year."

Enough contributions probably would come in the last of December to raise the total a good bit, said John Longley, last year's drive treasurer.

The Chest committee will meet Dec. 10 or 11 to make a count of the total returns and to allot the money.

"The money may or may not be allotted on a percentage basis," Zinn said. "It's up to the committee to decide how much money each agency gets."

Dance Class Ball Tonite in Ballroom

The Aggieband Combo will play for a formal dance of the MSC dance classes tonight at 8:30 in the MSC Ballroom.

This dance is open to those students signed up for the fall semester of classes taught by Manning Smith, said Boyce Holmes, chairman of the dance committee.

Graduation Card Deadline Set Dec. 9

The deadline for purchasing graduation announcements by seniors graduating in January is Dec. 9, the student activities office announced.

Three conventional types will be available. These are the french fold type, which will cost 13 cents each or two for 25 cents, the card-board type, which will sell for 45 cents each and the leather type which will cost 95 cents each.

The announcements will be delivered in plenty of time for the seniors to mail them, said Mrs. Polly Patranello of the student activities office.

Extra copies are not expected to be available and all students are urged to get their orders in soon, Mrs. Patranello said. Orders may be placed in the student activities office.

